

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled).

9. (New) An automated multi-function terminal for use in a post office,
a processor electrically coupled to each of:
an input device operable by a user,
a device for weighing items of postage comprising a working plane, supported by a frame, made of transparent material and a load cell able to weight the items placed on the working plane,
a device for capturing image mounted in the device, one for each side of the working plane,
a visual display,
the processor being configured to:
a) receive input from weighing device specifying the weighing of an object placed on the working plane;
b) receive input from image capturing device of an object placed on the working plane;

- c) receive input from the input device specifying other necessary characteristic of the delivery;
- d) process the image information in order to recognize dimensions, writing characters and/or symbols from the electronic image captured previously;
- e) provide output to the visual display to show image, dimensions, writings and all recognized characteristic from the object placed thereon; and
- (f) operate the output device to supply storage of retrieved information for further operations.

10. (New) An automated point-of-sale terminal as claimed in Claim 9, including a light manipulation device such as a mirror or a lens in order to reduce multi-function terminal dimensions.

11. (New) An automated multi-function terminal as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the said light manipulation device is a special set of lenses.

12. (New) An automated multi-function desk as claimed in Claim 9, further comprising an output device adapted to print and dispense a payment receipt.

13. (New) An automated multi-function desk as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the image is transferred via mirror or lenses to a image capturing device.

14. (New) An automated multi-function desk as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the processor, the input device, the weighing unit, the image capturing, the payment acceptance device, and the output device are integral in a single unit.

15. (New) An automated multi-function desk as claimed in Claim 14, wherein the integral unit is movable and independent from the desk.

16. (New) An automated multi-function desk as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the processor process the image information in specific identification of stamp area and analyses stamp image or value marks and correlates with stamp database trough apparent colures or sub-area colures in order to retrieve stamp value and validity.

17. (New) A method of facilitate postal services in a post office reducing the intervention of the employee, comprising providing an automated multi-function

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desk device operable by a worker to: placing an item of postage on a transparent plane; specify the characteristics of a postal delivery; weight the item of postage located on the plane that acts as a switch allowing image capturing of postage on the same plane and without moving the item; process the image and extract information; perform calculation and point out errors; accept payment of a postal charge in respect of the postal delivery ; and dispense a printed indication that the postage charge has been paid.